

R E M A R K S

This Amendment is submitted in full response to the outstanding and final Office Action dated January 13, 2004, and in accordance with our telephone conference with the Examiner, as such, re-consideration of this application is hereby respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, the Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that the Examiner made time to discuss the present case with the office of the undersigned on April 12, 2004. In the outstanding Office Action, all of the pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of the various cited references. Based upon our telephone conference with the Examiner, however, each of the independent claims, namely, claims 1, 20, 22, and 25-27 have been amended and are now believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Further, pending dependent claims 4-8, 13-19, 21, and 23 now depend either directly or indirectly from one of the independent claims as amended herein and, as such, are now also believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Finally, dependent claims 10-12, and 24 have been cancelled herein as their subject matter has been incorporated into a corresponding independent claim.

The Applicant submits that the claims remaining in the present application, either as currently amended, previously presented, or originally submitted, define certain structural features of a cover assembly for a hospital cart which are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by any of the references of record, whether considered

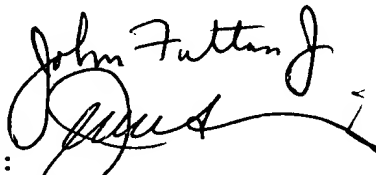
singularly or in combination with one another.

Accordingly, based upon the foregoing Amendments to the claims, it is submitted that this case is now in condition for the issuance of a Notice of Allowance, which action is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions and/or conclude that anything further is needed, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned via telephone in order that they may be addressed and resolved promptly.

In the event that any additional filing fee may be required by the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees and/or credit to our **Deposit Account No. 13-1227**. Please note that the Attorney Docket Number for this matter is 1.792.00.

Respectfully submitted,

MALLOY & MALLOY, P.A.
Attorneys for Applicant
2800 S.W. Third Avenue
Historic Coral Way
Miami, Florida 33129
(305) 858-8000

By: 

John Fulton, Jr.
Reg. No. 46,716
Jennie S. Malloy
Reg. No. 37,670

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